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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Applicant : Hugh Sharkey and Gary S.
Fanton

Art Unit : 3739
Examiner : D. Shay

Serial No. : 08/714,987

Filed : September 17, 1996

Title : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTROLLED CONTRACTION OF SOFT
TISSUE

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST TO CONSIDER PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED ART

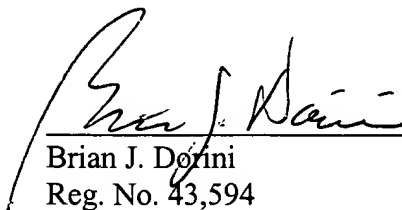
An Information Disclosure Statement was filed in the above-identified patent application on March 23, 1999. One reference submitted in that IDS was neither crossed-out nor initialled when the Examiner returned the Form PTO-1449 which was attached to the Office Action mailed January 31, 2000. Specifically, the Examiner did not indicate that the reference of Sluyter, "Radiofrequency Lesions in the Treatment of Cervical Pain Syndromes," Radionics, Inc., 1989, had been considered.

It is therefore respectfully requested that the Examiner consider this reference and indicate his consideration on the attached copy of the initialled Form PTO-1449.

It is not believed that any fee is due. However, please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: October 17, 2002



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